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1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Many Illinois residents are in a continuous 2 3 struggle to provide food for themselves and their families; 4 this struggle, also known as food insecurity, can result in hunger, malnutrition, and, in some cases, starvation; and 5

WHEREAS, Since the overall health of a person is dependent 7 upon a proper diet, hunger and malnutrition can lead to physical and cognitive impairments in children and create a 9 host of health-related problems in adults; and

WHEREAS, The establishment of a network of community-based food banks and food pantries can reduce the prevalence of food insecurity and offset the adverse effects of hunger and malnourishment; and

WHEREAS, One in nine Illinois residents struggles with hunger and food insecurity; and

WHEREAS, Charitable food organizations, including food banks and food pantries, have responded to food insecurity in Illinois by accepting food donations and providing hot meals, groceries, and information on government assistance programs to at-risk adults and families; and

- 1 WHEREAS, A greater public awareness of food insecurity and 2 the impact food insecurity has on the residents of Illinois is 3 essential to encourage donations to local food banks and food 4 pantries in this State; and
  - WHEREAS, The permanent establishment of Food Pantry Donation Month will serve to educate the residents of Illinois about the importance of food banks and food pantries in the effort to reduce food insecurity and to encourage communities throughout the State to support local charitable food organizations in their efforts to establish a safety net for those who are unable to provide for their own nutritional needs or those of their families; therefore, be it
  - RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we declare the Month of November 2019 as Food Pantry Donation Month in order to raise a greater public awareness of food insecurity and the impact food insecurity has on the residents of Illinois.